



A COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF

# The City of Buffalo Common Council

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Darius G. Pridgen, President | Christopher P. Scanlon, President Pro Tempore | David A. Rivera, Majority Leader

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:** Mike Read

**Phone:** (716) 245-8332

**Email:** [mread@buffalony.gov](mailto:mread@buffalony.gov)

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## Scanlon, Bollman Calling for the Implementation of Roll-Out Guidelines for the Sales and Distribution of Cannabis Products in City of Buffalo

**Buffalo, N.Y.** - South District Council Member Christopher P. Scanlon and Lovejoy District Council Member Bryan J. Bollman are calling to establish guidelines for selling and distributing cannabis products in the City of Buffalo. This is a response to the increase in “gifting” stores opening across the City since New York State legalized the sale and consumption of cannabis on March 31, 2021.

Scanlon and Bollman’s resolution “[Calling on the New York State Office of Cannabis Management and City of Buffalo Law Department to Implement Roll-Out Guidelines for the Sales and Distribution of Cannabis Products](#),” calls on the Office of Cannabis, Buffalo Police Department, Permits and Inspections, and the Office of the Erie County District Attorney to send a representative to attend a future Community Development Meeting conducted by the Common Council to outline the licensing process, zoning implementation, and requirements for storefront appearance.

“This resolution, and any other subsequent legislation that may arise from it, is not anti-cannabis. It is pro-public safety. On the backside of cannabis being regulated, the framework for retail and the other ways to distribute it, has not been fully established,” said South District Council Member Christopher P. Scanlon.

The resolution comes after residents’ concerns that unregulated stores have recently opened in the South District and Lovejoy District, some a few hundred feet away from school zones and residential areas without any community input, causing concern for the safety and health of all.

“Stores are popping up across the city selling unregulated cannabis products. This is a safety issue and furthermore, has no form of community input. I ask the Office of Cannabis



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Management to give us detailed guidance on how we will proceed as legalization of cannabis moves forward,” said Lovejoy District Council Member Bryan J. Bollman.

The resolution also calls on the Law Department to draft an ordinance with rules and regulations for the sales and distribution of Cannabis in the City of Buffalo. It also asks the Office of Cannabis to bar any stores that opened prior to licensing roll-out from being retailers in the future.

The resolution was adopted during the Buffalo Common Council meeting on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 and sent to the Community Development Committee for further discussion.

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